

(1) Number of Pages 12
(2) Date of repair 14. 7 - 1966
(3) Initials of the Referencer AK

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	372	Press
~~B.P. No.~~		~~Mis.~~
Dated	20 - 3 -	1874 -196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 197. Read the following Endorsement of the Secretary to Government,
Public Works Department, dated 3rd March 1874 :—

Read the following Memorandum from the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated
Courapett, 11th March 1874, No. 200A.

The undersigned has, in accordance with the instructions conveyed in the Secretary's endorsement, dated 3rd instant, to G. O., Revenue Department, No. 251, of the 24th February 1874, consulted with the Collector of South Arcot on the subject of the works which can be undertaken at once to afford relief to the population of this district, wherever distress may be apprehended.

2. It is thought that in connection with Local Fund Roads a very large amount of suitable employment may be found by detailing gangs to quarry, screen and sort gravel, and to quarry and break stone, this being work easily understood and capable of being readily supervised. It will be generally better to let the people do such work than actual constructive or repair work on the roads, as, in the first place, in the dry weather but little effective work can be done on the roads themselves, except where embankments have to be formed, side channels cut, and other descriptions of earthwork executed; and, secondly, adequate supervision might not be obtainable.

3. In connection with irrigation works there is a great deal which may be done, especially in the western and north-western parts of the district, in clearing tank-bunds and supply-channels. These are to a lamentable extent over-run with prickly-pear, and the channels from this and the growth of brush-wood are frequently rendered of but little use. These clearances can be carried out, to any extent which the Collector may desire, under the orders of the Revenue Officers, and the employment which this work will afford is practically unlimited, if the time during which labour is likely to be available from field work be taken into account. Previously to the receipt of the order of Government the Collector had been communicated with on this subject, and it is intended that, while very material aid will be given from Repair Funds for carrying out this work of clearance, the villagers shall be called upon to do such portion of the clearances, as may appear to be equitable and advisable, without payment, in order that they may not obtain entire relief for the neglected obligations of the past, nor suppose that these obligations will not be enforced in the future. It is evident that the cost of the clearances would practically be a great waste of money, if care be not taken that the prickly-pear does not make head again. A very trifling amount of labour bestowed at intervals will prevent its re-establishing itself on the village irrigation works, but the villagers alone can successfully prevent its re-growth on the many hundreds of works scattered all over the district.

4. When all the village irrigation works have been cleared, then, should unhappily more employment be needed, there are still the village waste lands, and often the putta lands as well, to be cleared; while the tracks between villages, now almost impassable in places, and elsewhere much blocked up, would be much the better for the extermination of this unmanageable pear.

372/2

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
20th March 1874.

5. The Vyllore Tank near Virdachellum, which breached shortly after its construction under circumstances which These will be new works as no revenue has been obtained from the restoration. will be noticed in another memorandum, and the Periakurchi Tank, about half way between Virdachellum and Kurinjapady, may be restored directly the employment of labour in these localities is deemed to be desirable by the Revenue Officers; and the estimates, revised according to instructions which will at once be given to the District Engineer, should be immediately got ready, and a memorandum detailing the exact way in which the work is to be done drawn up. Considerable care will be needed in executing these works and a competent maistry should be employed to supervise them.

6. From these remarks it will seen that there will be no difficulty in providing employment for all who need it, at any rate for several months. Regarding the railway works there is no need of any observations here, as the Chief Engineer of the Great Southern India Railway has just been to Cuddalore, and the Collector has been in consultation with him.

7. The instructions contained in G. O., No. 88, of the 7th March 1874, have also been attended to.

8. The difficulty which there would be in providing funds in a regular manner for agricultural works will be most easily met by Local Fund advances, to be repaid immediately after the 1st April, and the District Engineer has been instructed to apply for such advances as may be needed, and to repay as soon as allotted.
 to be repaid at his disposal.

TRANSFERRED to the Revenue Department with reference to the orders in that Department, No. 251, dated 24th February 1874, and No. 304, of 3rd March 1874.

19th March 1874. (Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 193. ORDER THEREON, 20th March 1874, No. 372.

Miscellaneous.

Communicated to the Board of
Revenue.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
.. the Public Works Department.
.. G. Banbury, Esq.,

Exl. W. H. French.

2/26

20th March 1874
 Memorandum for the
 Secretary to the
 Local Fund Roads
 Committee

MARCH
 1874

G. O. No. 2004 1874

STANDARD REVENUE

REVENUE.

Cost of 1874

* Ref to the
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Memorandum for the
 Secretary to the Local Fund Roads
 Committee
 The undersigned has, in accordance
 with the instructions conveyed in
 the Secretary's endorsement, dated 3rd
 Instant, to G. O. Revenue Dept. No. 251
 of the 21st February 1874, consulted
 with the Collector of South Arcot
 on the subject of the works which
 can be undertaken at once to afford
 relief to the population of this Dis-
 trict, wherever distress may be
 apprehended. -

2 It is thought that in con-
 nection with Local Fund Roads
 a very large amount of suitable
 employment may be found by
 detailing gangs to quarry, screen
 and sort gravel, and to quarry
 and break stone, this being work
 easily understood and capable
 of

2004
 272/3

of being readily supervised. It will be generally better to let the people do such work than actual constructive, or repair work on the roads, as in the first place in the dry weather but little effective work can be done on the roads themselves, except where embankments have to be formed, side channels cut and other descriptions of earth work requiring and demanding great supervision might not be obtainable.

3. In connection with irrigation works there is a great deal which may be done, especially in the Western and North Western parts of the District, in clearing land, bunds and supply channels. These are to a lamentable extent over-run with prickly pears, and the channels from this and the growth of

brush-wood are frequently rendered of but little use. These clearances can be carried out, to any extent which the Collector may desire, under the orders of the Revenue officers, and the employment which this work will afford is practically unlimited, if the time during which labour is likely to be available from field work be taken into account. Previously to the receipt of the orders of Government the Collector had been communicated with on this subject, and it is intended that while very material aid will be given from repairs funds for carrying out this work of clearance, the villagers shall be called upon to do such portion of the clearances, as may appear to be equitable and advisable, without payment, in order that they may not obtain entire relief for the neglected obligations of the

the past, nor suppose that these obligations will not be enforced in the future. It is evident that the cost of the clearances would practically be a great waste of money, if care be not taken that the prickly pears do not make head again. A very trifling amount of labour bestowed at intervals will prevent its re-establishing itself on the village irrigation works, but the villagers alone can successfully prevent its regrowth on the many hundreds of works scattered all over the District.

When all the village irrigation works have been cleared, then, should unhappily more employment be needed; there are still the village waste lands, and often the puttah lands as well, to be cleared; while the tracks between villages, now almost impassable,

37/3
in places, and elsewhere much blocked up, would be much the better for the extermination of this unmanageable pear.

There will be new works as no revenue has been obtained from the restoration.

5 The Vylore Tank near Virdachellum, which breached shortly after its ~~restoration~~ ^{construction} under circumstances which will be noticed in another Memorandum; and the Periakurchi Tank about half way between Virdachellum and Kuringipady, may be restored directly the employment of labour in these localities is deemed to be desirable by the Revenue Officers; and the estimates revised according to instructions which will at once be given to the District Engineer, should be immediately got ready, and a Memorandum detailing the exact way in which the work is to be done drawn up. Considerable care will be needed in executing these works and a competent Maistry should be employed to

to supervise them.

6 From these remarks it will be seen that there will be no difficulty in providing employment for all who need it at any rate for several months. Regarding the Railway works there is no need of any observations here, as the Chief Engineer of the B. & S. I. R. has just been to Buddalore, and the Collector has been in consultation with him.

7 The instructions contained in G.O. No. 88 of the 7th March 1874 have also been attended to.

8 The difficulty which there would be in providing funds in a regular manner for agricultural works will be most easily met by Local fund advances, to be repaid immediately after the 1st April, and the District Engineer has been instructed to apply for such advances as may be needed, and to repay them as soon as allotments for 1874-75 are placed at his

disposal

disposal

Camp at
Comapett
11th March
1874.

3/5/6
Whitlins, Esq. District Collector
Chief Engineer for Irrigation

To,
The Secretary to Government
Pub. Works Dept.

24th February 1749 No. 216-217
3 March 1754/56.

transferred
to the Revenue
Department
with reference to
the orders in that
Dept. of 257 dated 14th
Feb 28/74 and 14th 304
of 3rd March/74.

Spindler 10.11.23

Scott's Front

19th March/94. No 572. 28.7.94.
 Sent to the brand
 of Lawrence (111)
 13.6.94. 28.7.94.
 20.6.94. 28.7.94.

Revenue
Auditor, March 1874 dep't.
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by post 1/6

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Feb 11: 1874

Dep't. in the S. to the Museum
to the Secretary - 20.3.74

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Richard?
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News from